

ABSTRACT

1 An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system is accessed via a computer system
2 and includes a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading
3 difficulty. A semantic space module of the reading tutoring system operates on a semantic space,
4 which is produced by a machine-learning method, to automatically evaluate a student-submitted
5 summary of a selected instructional passage for congruence with the selected instructional passage
6 and to automatically determine which instructional passage the student should optimally read next
7 . The reading tutoring system includes immediate feedback data provided to the student and
8 including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the
9 instructional passage that the student should read next. An automated, computer-based method
10 of reading tutoring comprises the steps of receiving a student-submitted summary of a selected
11 instructional passage from a domain of discourse, automatically evaluating the summary to obtain
12 a measure of the student's reading comprehension and, based on this evaluation, automatically
13 selecting an instructional passage for the student to read next.